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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

HIRAO et al.

Serial No. 09/919,024

Filed: July 31, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR STARTING UP

REACTOR

Customer No.

26817

Group Art Unit: 1625

Examiner: OH, Taylor Victor

Confirmation No. 3715

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This response is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated June 13, 2006.

Entered W.4h RCE 11/13/06 RL: 11/20/06